

Delaware TRS Advisory Committee
Monday, March 13, 2017
Delaware School for the Deaf



Attendees:

Angie Officer – Chairperson /Note Taker

	Colleen Gause, Department of Technology		Marcella Little, DE TRS Outreach Specialist
	Karen Latimer, University of Delaware- Delaware Assistive Technology		Eva Hartmann, Delaware School for the Deaf
	Linda Heller, HLAA		Loretta Sarro, Interim Chairperson – DE Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
	Connie McDowell, DE PSC		Oliver Cleary, DE Department of Justice
	Andrew Brenneman, Sprint Accessibility		Melody May (subbing for Elisha Jenkins), Delaware Division for the Visually Impaired
	Angie Officer , Sprint Accessibility/ Delaware Relay Service		Feta Fernsler, Customer
	Harriet Ann Litwan, DE Division of Vocational Rehabilitation		3 Sign Language Interpreters
	CART Service		Patti Ravillous (customer) Deaf Outreach, Inc.
	Carl Ravillous, (customer) Deaf Outreach, Inc.		

Minutes:

- The DE TRS Advisory Committee approved the minutes from the meeting on April 4, 2016 and September 26, 2016.
- The bylaws have been amended in the same fashion as Senate Bill 184. The amended legislation has been updated as follows:
 - Currently looking into Senate Bill 184. Recommend not to limit to 11 members only.
 - Change Kyle Hodges' title – State Counsel for Persons with Disabilities.
 - Replace Delaware Association of the Deaf with Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative.
 - Add a line that would allow committee to add members.
- The general assembly resumes on April 25th. So they'll have that hearing to reintroduce the amended status. Hopefully we can get the amended legislation before that date. Colleen, Connie, and Oliver will keep us posted - special thanks for their hard work on this task.
- Colleen will follow up to find out who will be the sponsor for the amended legislation.
- The committee agreed to hold off on bylaws until the new legislation is passed. Once it passes we can finalize the bylaws, depending when the governor signs, which could be a day or a couple of months.

- Loretta Sarro was able to meet with the Delaware Association of the Deaf (DAD) DAD's president is Billy Bowman. Jay Innes no longer a president of DAD. Billy Bowman is still working on selecting a representative for DE TRS Advisory Committee. Loretta will attend their dinner fundraiser and follow up with Billy with the status.
- Angie Officer introduced the new DE TRS Outreach Specialist, Marcella Little. Marcella Little is very excited to be working with the DE TRS Advisory Committee, Sprint Accessibility/Delaware Relay Service and end users to increase more awareness about Delaware Relay Service and Delaware CapTel Service.
- Background history about Marcella Little:
 - A graduate of Kutztown University – studied Broadcast Technology and Public Relations
 - After working in the TV industry for a short but successful 3 years, Marcella left the field to find more meaningful work. Her search led her to the non-profit sector. Feeling inspired, Marcella went back to school to earn a Master's Degree in Education.
 - Over the next 11 years, became a seasoned Human Service Professional. Served in such roles as, a Vocational Program Manager, Clinical Manager and in her most current role, Residential Program Manager; all servicing Delaware's developmental disabled population. She also learned to communicate using A.S.L to better connect with individuals who were Deaf.
 - Based in Newark, DE.
- Angie Officer provided an overview about the Delaware Relay Service and outreach efforts.
- Angie provided an overview about the Bluetooth and Wifi compatible for CapTel 2400i. Telephone calls can be challenging for people with hearing loss. The new CapTel 2400i makes it easy to enjoy phone conversations, confident you'll catch every word.
 - Shows word-for-word captions during your calls
 - Large easy touch-screen display
 - Powerful amplification — up to 40dB
 - Traditional telephone keypad — for comfortable, familiar dialing
 - Bluetooth® and WiFi compatible
- **New Feature: Bluetooth® Connectivity for CapTel 2400i**
Users can connect their own Bluetooth®-compatible headset, neckloop, or other Bluetooth assistive listening device to enjoy "hands-free" calling and benefit from the features of their Bluetooth-enabled device. Bluetooth devices sold separately.
- **New Button: Speakerphone (replaces "Tone" button)**
Provides quick one-touch access to the Speakerphone feature. Users can still adjust the Tone control using the touch-screen menu.
- **Revised Audio Jack access – 3.5mm connection**
Provides 3.5mm audio jack to accommodate contemporary devices with both outgoing audio and incoming microphone/voice. The 2.5mm jack has been removed.
- The committee agreed to meet on Monday, June 19, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. ET at the Delaware School for the Deaf in Newark, DE.

Action Item Log:

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